BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

School of Medical Imaging and Radiologic Sciences

Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program Goals & Learning Outcomes

The Boise State Diagnostic Medical Sonography program goals and student learning outcomes are an incorporation of information publicly available via the JRC DMS NEC Curricula, CAAHEP Standards and Guidelines, the Boise State University's foundational office, the College of Health Sciences, the Radiologic Sciences department, and the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program. The goals and student learning outcomes are written to guide students in their progression through the program, support graduates of the program as they transition into the workforce, set standards for faculty, adequately represent the University and the clinical affiliates, and ultimately meet the needs of the community, employers, physicians, and the public.

CAAHEP Concentration Goal Statement:

"To prepare competent entry-level sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains for the abdominal sonography-extended and obstetrics and gynecology sonography concentrations."

Boise State University Concentration Goal Statements:

1. "The goal of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at Boise State University relative to the Abdominal Sonography concentration is to adequately prepare students with the proper knowledge of abdominal structures and small parts and to provide opportunities to develop the skills and abilities that are essential to act as a competent entry-level Abdominal Sonographer."
2. "The goal of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program at Boise State University relative to the Obstetric and Gynecologic Sonography concentration is to adequately prepare students with the proper knowledge of Obstetric and Gynecologic systems and to provide opportunities to develop the skills and abilities that are essential to act as a competent entry-level Obstetric and Gynecologic Sonographer."

Program Goals & Objectives:

1. To prepare competent entry-level general sonographers in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.
2. Provide a learning environment for the student sonographer that promotes empathetic and professional service to the patient, radiologist/sonologist, and/or attending physician.
3. Student sonographers will recognize the importance of, and employ, ergonomically correct scanning techniques.
4. Student sonographers will achieve and maintain a high level of mastery academically and clinically.
5. Student sonographers will observe as confidential all information regarding patients, and will not discuss this information outside the ultrasound department or educational setting.
6. Student sonographers will learn and develop an appreciation for the principles of the medical imaging profession.
7. After completion of the didactic and clinical components of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Program, students will write the national credentialing examination(s) offered by the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (Physics & Instrumentation, Abdomen, and OB/GYN) and/or the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (Sonography).
8. Student sonographers are encouraged to broaden their knowledge of the medical ultrasound field and to attain additional skills in subject areas relating to their professional career.

Program Learning Objectives:

1. Students will demonstrate and apply the academic knowledge, clinical skills, and technical competencies required for diagnostic medical sonography practice, including sonographic terminology, patient care and safety, professional responsibilities, examination protocols, ultrasound physics, and appropriate clinical applications.
2. Students will demonstrate clinical competencies in diagnostic medical sonography procedures involving the abdominal, obstetric, gynecologic, vascular, and superficial parts specialties.
3. Students will evaluate and adapt their sonographic technique, including patient and equipment positioning, examination setup, system parameter adjustment, image optimization, and image evaluation.
4. Students will apply ergonomically appropriate scanning techniques to promote safe and sustainable sonographic practice.
5. Students will function as competent sonographers across a variety of patient-care environments, including inpatient, outpatient, and patient assessment settings.
6. Students will provide a safe environment for patients, themselves, and others through adherence to applicable federal, state, institutional, and professional safety standards.
7. Students will evaluate clinical situations and apply learned content and prior knowledge to advocate for patients and provide appropriate, effective, and necessary patient care.
8. Students will demonstrate effective written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills when interacting with patients, patient advocates, healthcare providers, peers, and the public.
9. Students will protect patient privacy and confidentiality and appropriately manage protected health information within clinical and educational settings.
10. Students will demonstrate an understanding of and adherence to the ethical principles and professional standards of diagnostic medical sonography.
11. Students will interpret and evaluate peer-reviewed professional literature and apply appropriate research principles when discussing evidence relevant to sonographic practice.
12. Students will recognize the importance of professional credentialing, continuing education, and participation in professional organizations as components of lifelong professional development.

Boise State University Learning Outcomes:

1. Written Communication – Write effectively in multiple contexts, for a variety of audiences.
2. Oral Communication – Communicate effectively in speech, both as a speaker and listener.
3. Critical Inquiry – Engage in effective critical inquiry by defining problems, gathering and evaluating evidence, and determining the adequacy of argumentative discourse.
4. Ethics – Analyze ethical issues in personal, professional, and civic life and produce reasoned evaluations of competing value systems and ethical claims.
5. Diversity – Apply knowledge of diversity and systems of inequality to address social issues of local and global importance.
6. Natural, Physical, and Applied Sciences – Apply knowledge and the methods characteristic of scientific inquiry to think critically about and solve theoretical and practical problems about physical structures and processes.

Advanced Medical Imaging Program Outcomes:

1. Advocate for patients, recognize professional impact related to patient outcomes and develop a culture of safety.
2. Demonstrate effective, appropriate, and respectful communication with diverse populations of patients, co-workers, physicians, and the community to improve patient outcomes by performing beyond technical application.
3. Apply ethical practice as a professional technologist from a legal, compliance, and systems perspective within the healthcare realm.
4. Actively lead and/or participate within an interprofessional team to improve communication amongst healthcare providers and decrease patient risk.
5. Implement advanced imaging principles and practices at a level of mastery.
6. Appropriately share data within a healthcare team while maintaining patient privacy and confidentiality.
7. Attain eligibility for national credentialing within a modality of focus.